

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computing apparatus, comprising:

a mainboard having at least an electronic component mounted thereon;

5 a small outline dual in-line memory module (SO-DIMM) compliant slot mounted on said mainboard and having a set of first electrical contacts coupled to said electronic component; and

10 a hardware management add-on card mounted on said SO-DIMM compliant slot and having a set of second electrical contacts for connecting electrically with said first electrical contacts, said hardware management add-on card being operable so as to enable monitoring of said electronic component.

15 2. The computing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said hardware management add-on card has a pin configuration that complies with that of a SO-DIMM specification.

20 3. The computing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said hardware management add-on card is further operable so as to enable control of said electronic component.

25 4. The computing apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said mainboard is a server mainboard, and said hardware management add-on card is an Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI) compatible server management add-on card.